

REMARKS

Status of the claims:

With the above amendments, claim 4 has been canceled and claims 1, 5, and 6 have been amended. Thus, claims 1, 2, and 5-10 are pending and ready for further action on the merits. No new matter has been added by way of the above amendments. Claim 1 has been amended by incorporation of the subject matter of claim 4. Claims 5 and 6 have had their dependency changed from claim 4 to claim 1. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Rejections under 35 USC §103

Claims 1, 2, and 7-10 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwahara '732 (US Patent No. 4,904,732) in view of Kimura '050 (US Patent No. 5,319,050).

This rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Present Invention

The present invention, as recited in claim 1, relates to a room temperature curable composition comprising

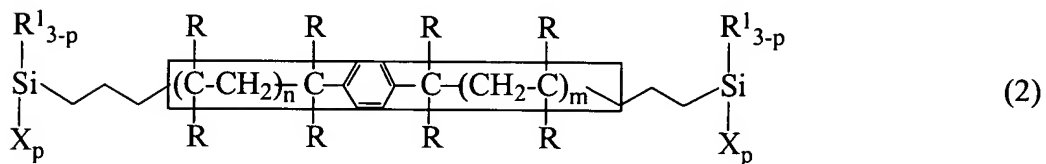
(A) 100 parts by weight of a saturated hydrocarbon polymer having a number average molecular weight in the range of 500 to 50,000 and bearing at least two hydrolyzable silyl groups at an end of the backbone and/or an end of a side chain per molecule,

(B) an organic compound having at least one C=O group in a molecule, in such an amount as to give 0.001 to 1 mol of the C=O group per 100 parts by weight of polymer (A), and

(C) an organic compound having at least one NH₂ group in a molecule, in such an amount as to give 0.001 to 1 mol of the NH₂ group per 100 parts by weight of polymer (A), components (B) and (C) being selected such that the C=O and NH₂ groups in the respective components are reactive with each other

(D) a paraffinic process oil.

Polymer (A) has the structure of general formula (2)



wherein R and R¹, which may be the same or different, are substituted or unsubstituted monovalent hydrocarbon groups, X is a hydrolyzable group, p is an integer of 1 to 3, and m and n are positive integers.

Disclosure of Iwahara '732

Iwahara '732 discloses an isobutylene polymer having at least one silicon-containing group cross-linkable by the formation of a siloxane bond. The isobutylene polymer is curable at ordinary temperatures and is said to exhibit excellent

weatherability, water-resistance, heat-resistance, and is said to have excellent electric isolation and gas impermeability.

Iwahara '732 fails to disclose a paraffinic process oil.

Disclosure of Kimura '050

Kimura '050 discloses a condensation-curing type curable composition which comprises a diorganopolysiloxane or polyoxyalkylene blocked by a hydrolyzable silyl group at both terminal ends of its molecular chain as a base polymer, in which a carbonyl group-containing organic compound and an amino group-containing organic compound are compounded. The composition is said to be capable of forming water through dehydration condensation between the carbonyl and amino groups, simultaneously with curing of the composition by moisture in air. The formation of water is said to offer marked improvements in fast-curing properties and in depth curing properties.

Kimura '050 fails to disclose a paraffinic process oil.

Removal of the Rejection over Iwahara '732 in view of Kimura '050

Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to include the subject matter of claim 4. The Examiner has indicated that claim 4 is patentable. Accordingly, Applicants believe that all claims are now patentable as all claims are either directly or

indirectly dependent from claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection is warranted and respectfully requested.

With the above remarks and amendments, Applicants believe that the claims, as they now stand, define patentable subject matter such that a passage of the instant invention to allowance is warranted. A Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.


If any questions remain regarding the above matters, please contact Applicant's representative, T. Benjamin Schroeder (Reg. No. 50,990), in the Washington metropolitan area at the phone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By



Andrew D. Meikle, #32,868

BS
ADM/TBS/mua

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000